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j1002 U.S. PTO
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH MPEP 609

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Applicant(s) submit herewith documents which they believe may be material to the examination of this application and with respect to which they believe there may be a duty to disclose the existence and contents thereof. These documents are listed on Form PTO-1449 attached hereto.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR 1.97(g)), nor as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission in any manner.

Copies of all listed documents are:

- ☒ attached hereto.
- ☐ attached hereto unless provided during the prosecution of the parent application, U.S. Serial No. _____ filed _____
- ☐ now allowed
- ☐ and issued as U.S. Patent No. _____ on _____.

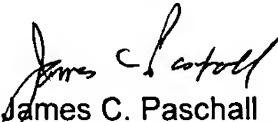
Related Applications:

- ☐ In addition to the documents cited in the specification, applicant wishes to point out copending U.S. application Serial No. _____ filed on _____.
- ☐ This copending application relates to _____.
- ☐ The inventive entity is the same.

The owner of the above applications is the same.

Initialing of each document after its consideration by the Examiner is now respectfully requested in this matter.


Respectfully submitted,


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(847) 391-2387 (fax)

Dated: December 19, 2001

JCP/gm

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Rev 2-32) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO.: 106023	SERIAL NO.:
	APPLICANT: Luigi Laricchia et al.	
	FILING DATE:	GROUP ART UNIT:

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 12/20/01

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	US 4,049,572 B1	09/77	Douglas	252	431N	02/24/76
	US 4,562,300 B1	12/85	LaFoy	585	854	04/19/85
	US 5,244,643 B1	09/93	Verachtert	423	243.08	02/21/92

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

			J.R. Salazar, <i>Handbook of Petroleum Refining Processes</i> , 9-4 to 9-5 (Robert A. Meyers ed. 1986).
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED